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REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Final Office Action mailed on February 9, 2004. Claims 1, 2, 4-18 and 21-25 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 2, 4-14 and 21 are allowed and claims 16-18 and 22 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 15 and 23-25 are rejected. Applicants respond to the rejection of claims 15 and 23-25 as follows.

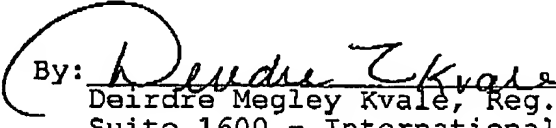
Claims 15 and 23-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Kuwajima. Claim 15 have been amended to recite *inter alia* a shape memory alloy flexure element to adjust flexure of a proximal bending region of a suspension and claims 23-25 recite *inter alia* energizing a shape memory alloy flexure element to adjust flexure of a proximal bending region of the head suspension which is not taught nor suggested by Kuwajima. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of amended claims 15 and 23-25 are respectfully requested.

Applicants acknowledge allowance of claims 1, 2, 4-14 and 21 and allowability of claims 16-18 and 22. Claims 16-18 and 22 are dependent upon amended claim 15 and allowance thereof is respectfully requested based upon allowance of amended claim 15.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,
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By:


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